

PLU

Eastern travellers know that ostridges feathers are common, and the ordinary *plume* of Janizaries. *Brown.*

The fearful infant
Daunted to see a face with steel o'erspread,
And his high *plume* that nodded o'er his head. *Dryden.*

3. Pride; towering mien.
Great duke of Lancaster, I come to thee
From *plume* pluckt Richard, who with willing soul
Adopts thee heir. *Shakespeare's Richard II.*

4. Token of honour; prize of contest.
Ambitious to win from me some *plume*. *Milton.*

5. *Plume* is a term used by botanists for that part of the seed of a plant, which in its growth becomes the trunk: it is inclosed in two small cavities, formed in the lobes for its reception, and is divided at its loose end into divers pieces, all closely bound together like a bunch of feathers, whence it has this name. *Quincy.*

To PLUME. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To pick and adjust feathers.
Swans must be kept in some enclosed pond, where they may have room to come ashore and *plume* themselves. *Mort.*

2. [*Plumer*, Fr.] To strip of feathers.
Such animals, as feed upon flesh, devour some part of the feathers of the birds they gorge themselves with, because they will not take the pains fully to *plume* them. *Ray.*

3. To strip; to pill.
They fluck not to say, that the king cared not to *plume* the nobility and people to feather himself. *Bacon.*

4. To place as a plume.
His stature reach'd the sky, and on his crest
Sat horror *plum'd*. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. iv.*

5. To adorn with plumes.
Farewell the *plumed* troops, and the big war,
That make ambition virtue. *Shakespeare's Othello.*

PLUMEA'LUM. *n. f.* [*alumen plumsum*, Lat.] A kind of albutus.

Plumealium, formed into the likeness of a wick, will administer to the flame, and yet not consume.

PLUM'GEROUS. *adj.* [*pluma* and *gero*, Lat.] Having feathers; feathered.

PLUM'PEDE. *n. f.* [*pluma* and *pes*, Lat.] A fowl that has feathers on the foot.

PLUMMET. *n. f.* [from *plumb*.]

1. A weight of lead hung at a string, by which depths are sounded, and perpendicularity is discerned.

Deeper than did ever *plummet* found,
I'll drown my book. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*

Fly envious time
Call on the lazy leaden-stepping hours,
Whole speed is but the heavy *plummet's* pace. *Milton.*

2. Any weight.
God sees the body of flesh which you bear about you, and the *plummet* which it hangs upon your soul, and therefore, when you cannot rise high enough to him, he comes down to you.

The heaviness of these bodies, being always in the ascending side of the wheel, must be counterpoised by a *plummet* fastened about the pulley on the axis: this *plummet* will descend according as the hand doth make the several parts of the wheel lighter or heavier. *Wilkins.*

PLUMOSITY. *n. f.* [from *plumosus*.] The state of having feathers.

PLUMOUS. *adj.* [*plumex*, Fr. *plumifus*, Lat.] Feathery; resembling feathers.

This has a like *plumous* body in the middle, but finer. *Woodward on Fossils.*

PLUMP. *adj.* [Of this word the etymology is not known. *Stinner* derives it from *pommele*, Fr. full like a ripe apple; it might be more easily deduced from *plum*, which yet seems very harsh. *Junius* omits it.] Somewhat fat; not lean; sleek; full and smooth.

The heifer, that valued itself upon a smooth coat and a *plump* habit of body, was taken up for a sacrifice; but the ox, that was despised for his raw bones, went on with his work still. *L'Estrange.*

Plump gentleman,
Get out as fast as e'er you can;
Or cease to puff, or to exclaim,
You make the very crowd you blame. *Prior.*

The famish'd cow
Grows *plump* and round, and full of mettle. *Swift.*

PLUMP. *n. f.* [from the adjective.] A knot; a tuft; a cluster; a number joined in one mass.

England, Scotland, Ireland lie all in a *plump* together, not accessible but by sea. *Bacon.*

Warwick having espied certain *plumps* of Scottish horsemen ranging the field, returned towards the arriere to prevent danger. *Hayward.*

We rested under a *plump* of trees.
Spread upon a lake, with upward eye
A *plump* of fowl behold their foe on high;
They close their trembling troop, and all attend
On whom the fowling eagle will descend. *Dryden.*

To PLUMP. *v. a.* [from the adjective.] To fatten; to swell; to make large.

PLU

The particles of air expanding themselves, *plump* out the sides of the bladder, and keep them turgid. *Boyle.*

I'm as lean as carion; but a wedding at our house will *plump* me up with good cheer. *L'Estrange.*

Let them lie for the dew and rain to *plump* them. *Mort.*

To PLUMP. *v. n.* [from the adverb.]

2. [From the adjective.] To be swollen. *Ainsworth.*

1. To fall like a stone into the water. A word formed from the sound.

PLUMP. *adv.* [Probably corrupted from *plumb*, or perhaps formed from the sound of a stone falling on the water.] With a sudden fall.

I would fain now see 'em rowl'd
Down a hill, or from a bridge
Head-long cast, to break their ridge;
Or to some river take 'em. *B. Johnson.*

Plump, and see if that would wake 'em. *B. Johnson.*

Fluttering his pennons vain *plump* down he drops. *Mit.*

PLUMPER. *n. f.* [from *plump*.] Something worn in the mouth to swell out the cheeks.

She dextrously her *plumbers* draws,
That serve to fill her hollow jaws. *Swift's Misc.*

PLUMPSNESS. *n. f.* [from *plump*.] Fulness; disposition towards fulness.

Those convex glasses supply the defect of *plumpsness* in the eye, and by encreasing the refraction make the rays converge sooner, so as to convene at the bottom of the eye. *Newton.*

PLUMPORRIDGE. *n. f.* [*plum* and *porridge*.] Porridge with plums.

A rigid dissenter, who dined at his house on Christmas-day, eat very plentifully of his *plumporridge*. *Addison.*

PLUMPUDDING. *n. f.* [*plum* and *pudding*.] Pudding made with plums.

PLUMPY. *adj.* *Plump*; fat.

Come, thou monarch of the vine,
Plumpy Bacchus, with pink eyne,
In thy vats our cares be drown'd. *Shakespeare.*

PLUMY. *adj.* [from *plume*.] Feathered; covered with feathers.

Satan fell, and straight a fiery globe
Of angels on full sail of wing flew nigh,
Who on their *plumy* vans receiv'd him soft
From his uneasy station, and upbore
As on a floating couch through the blithe air. *Milton.*

Appear'd his *plumy* crest, befeign'd with blood. *Addison.*

Sometimes they are like a quill, with the *plumy* part only upon one side. *Græw's Coymet, b. i.*

To PLUNDER. *v. a.* [*plunderen*, Dutch.]

1. To pillage; to rob in an hostile way.
Nebuchadnezzar *plunders* the temple of God, and we find the fatal doom that afterwards befel him. *South's Sermons.*

Ships the fruits of their exaction brought,
Which made in peace a treasure richer far,
Than what is *plunder'd* in the rage of war. *Dryden.*

2. To rob as a thief.

Their country's wealth our mightier misers drain,
Or cross, to *plunder* provinces, the main. *Pope.*

PLUNDER. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Pillage; spoils gotten in war.

Let loose the murmuring army on their masters,
To pay themselves with *plunder*. *Orwig.*

PLUNDERER. *n. f.* [from *plunder*.]

1. Hostile pillager; spoiler.

2. A thief; a robber.

It was a famous saying of William Rufus, who ever spares perjured men, robbers, *plunderers* and traitors, deprives all good men of their peace and quietness. *Addison.*

We cannot future violence overcome,
Nor give the miserable province ease,
Since what one *plunderer* left, the next will seize. *Dryden.*

To PLUNGE. *v. a.* [*plonger*, Fr.]

1. To put suddenly under water, or under any thing supposed liquid.

Plunge us in the flames.
Headlong from hence to *plunge* herself the springs,
But shoots along supported on her wings. *Dryden.*

2. To put into any state suddenly.
I mean to *plunge* the boy in pleasing sleep,
And ravish'd in Italian bow'ts to keep. *Dryden.*

3. To hurry into any distress.

O conscience! into what abyss of fears
And horrors hast thou driv'n me? out of which
I find no way; from deep to deeper *plung'd*. *Milton.*

Without a prudent determination in matters before us, we shall be *plunged* into perpetual errors.

4. To force in suddenly. This word, to what action soever it be applied, commonly expresses either violence and suddenness in the agent, or distress in the patient.

At this advance'd, and sudden as the word,
In proud Pegasus' bosom *plung'd* the sword. *Dryden.*

Let them not be too hasty to *plunge* their enquiries at once into the depths of knowledge.

To PLUNGE. *v. n.*

1. To sink suddenly into water; to dive.

Accounted as I was, I *plunged* in. *Shakespeare's Julius Caesar.*

PLY

His courier *plung'd*,
And threw him off; the waves whelm'd over him, *Dryden.*

And helpless in his heavy arms he drown'd.

When thou, thy ship o'erwhelm'd with waves, shalt be
Forc'd to *plunge* naked in the raging sea. *Dryden.*

When tortoisies have been a long time upon the water, their shell being dried in the sun, they are easily taken; by reason they cannot *plunge* into the water nimbly enough. *Ray.*

2. To fall or rush into any hazard or distress.

He could find no other way to conceal his adultery, but to *plunge* into the guilt of a murder. *Tillotson.*

Plunge me for honour *plunge* into a war
Bid me for honour *plunge* into a war
Then shalt thou see that Marcus is not slow. *Addison.*

Impotent of mind and uncontrol'd,
He *plung'd* into the gulph which heav'n foretold. *Pope.*

PLUNGE. *n. f.*

1. Act of putting or sinking under water.

2. Difficulty; strait; distress.

She was weary of her life, since she was brought to that *plunge*; to conceal her husband's murder, or accuse her son. *Sidney, b. ii.*

People, when put to a *plunge*, cry out to heaven for help, without helping themselves.

Wilt thou behold me sinking in my woes?
And wilt thou not reach out a friendly arm,
To raise me from amidst this *plunge* of sorrows? *Addison.*

He must be a good man; a quality which Cicero and Quintilian are much at a *plunge* in ascribing to the Greek and Roman orators. *Baker's Reflections on Learning.*

PLUNGEON. *n. f.* [*mergus*, Lat.] A sea bird.

PLUNGER. *n. f.* [from *plunge*.] One that plunges; a diver.

PLUNKET. *n. f.* A kind of blue colour. *Ainsworth.*

PLURAL. *adj.* [*pluralis*, Lat.]

1. Implying more than one.

Thou hast no faith left now, unless thou'dst two;
Better have none
Than *plural* faith, which is too much by one. *Shakespeare.*

2. [In grammar.]

The Greek and Hebrew have two variations, one to signify the number two, and another to signify a number of more than two; under one variation the noun is said to be of the dual number, and under the other of the *plural*. *Clarke.*

PLURALIST. *n. f.* [*pluraliste*, Fr. from *plural*.] One that holds more ecclesiastical benefices than one with cure of souls.

If the *pluralists* would do their best to suppress curates, their number might be so retrenched, that they would not be in the least formidable. *Callier on Pride.*

PLURALITY. *n. f.* [*pluralité*, Fr.]

1. The state of being or having a greater number.

It is not *plurality* of parts without majority of parts, that maketh the total greater; yet it seemeth to the eye a shorter distance of way, if it be all dead and continued, than if it have trees, whereby the eye may divide it. *Bacon.*

2. A number more than one.

Those heretics had introduced a *plurality* of gods, and so made the profession of the unity part of the symbolum, that should discriminate the orthodox from them. *Hammond.*

They could forego *plurality* of wives, though that be the main impediment to the conversion of the East Indies. *Bentl.*

'Tis impossible to conceive how any language can want this variation of the noun, where the nature of its signification is such as to admit of *plurality*. *Clarke's Lat. Grammar.*

3. More cures of souls than one.

4. The greater number; the majority.

Take the *plurality* of the world, and they are neither wife nor good. *L'Estrange's Fables.*

PLURALLY. *adv.* [from *plural*.] In a sense implying more than one.

PLUSH. *n. f.* [*peluche*, Fr.] A kind of villous or shaggy cloth; shag.

The bottom of it was set against a lining of *plush*, and the sound was quite deadened, and but mere breath. *Bacon.*

The colour of *plush* or velvet will appear varied, if you stroak part of it one way, and part of it another. *Boyle.*

I love to wear cloths that are flush,
Not prefacing old rags with *plush*. *Cleaveland.*

PLUSHER. *n. f.* A sea fish.

The pilchard is devoured by a bigger kind of fish called a *plusher*, somewhat like the dog-fish, who leapeth above water, and therethrough bewrayeth them to the balker. *Carew.*

PLUVIAL. *adj.* [from *pluvia*, Latin.] Rainy; relating to PLUVIOUS. } rain.

The fungus parcels about the wicks of candles only signify a moist and *pluvius* air about them. *Brown.*

PLUVIAL. *n. f.* [*pluvial*, Fr.] A priest's cope.

To PLY. *v. a.* [*plien*, to work at any thing, old Dutch. *Junius* and *Skinner*.]

1. To work on any thing closely and importunately.

The savage raves, impatient of the wound,
The wound's great author clove at hand provokes
His rage, and *plies* him with redoubled strokes. *Dryden.*

The hero from afar
Plies him with darts and stones; and distant war. *Dryden.*

POA

2. To employ with diligence; to keep busy; to set on work.

Her gentle wit she *plies* *Fairy Queen.*

To teach them truth. *Shakespeare.*

Keep house, and *ply* his book, welcome his friends,
Visit his countrymen, and banquet them. *Shakespeare.*

Their legs *ply'd*, not staying *Hudibras.*

Until they reach'd the fatal champain.

He who exerts all the faculties of his soul, and *plies* all means and opportunities in the search of truth, may rest upon the judgment of his conscience so informed, as a warrantable guide. *South's Sermons.*

The weary Trojans *ply* their shatter'd oars *Dryden's Virgil.*

To nearest land.

I have *plied* my needle these fifty years, and by my good will would never have it out of my hand. *Spectator.*

3. To practise diligently.

He sternly bad him other business *ply*. *Spenser.*

Then commune how they best may *ply* *Milton.*

Their growing work.

Their bloody task, unwear'd still, they *ply*. *Wallar.*

4. To solicit importunately.

He *plies* her hard, and much rain wears the marble. *Shakespeare's Merch. of Venice.*

He *plies* the duke at morning and at night,
And doth impeach the freedom of the state,
If they deny him justice. *Shakespeare's Merch. of Venice.*

Whoever has any thing of David's piety will be perpetually *plying* the throne of grace with such like acknowledgments: as, blessed be that providence, which delivered me from such a lewd company. *South's Sermons.*

To PLY. *v. n.*

1. To work, or offer service.

He was forced to *ply* in the streets as a porter for his livelihood. *Addison's Spectator, N° 94.*

2. To go in haste.

Thither he *plies* undaunted. *Milton.*

3. To busy one's self.

A bird new-made about the banks she *plies*,
Not far from shore, and short excursions tries. *Dryden.*

4. [*Plier*, Fr.] To bend.

The willow *plied* and gave way to the gust, and still recovered itself again, but the oak was stubborn, and chose rather to break than bend. *L'Estrange.*

PLY. *n. f.* [from the verb.]

1. Bent; turn; form; cast; bias.

The late learners cannot so well take the *ply*, except it be in some minds that have not suffered themselves to fix, but have kept themselves open and prepared to receive continual amendment. *Bacon's Essays.*

2. Plait; fold.

The ruga or *plies* of the inward coat of the stomach detain the aliment in the stomach. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

PLYERS. *n. f.* See PLIERS.

PNEUMATICAL. *adj.* [*πνευματικός*, from *πνεῦμα*.]

PNEUMATICK. } *adj.* [relative to wind.]

1. Moved by wind; relative to wind.

I fell upon the making of *pneumatical* trials, whereof I gave an account in a book about the air. *Boyle.*

That the air near the surface of the earth will expand itself, when the pressure of the incumbent atmosphere is taken off, may be seen in the experiments made by Boyle in his *pneumatick* engine. *Locke's Elements of Natural Philosophy.*

The lemon uncorrupt with voyage long,
To vinous spirits added,
They with *pneumatick* engine ceaseless draw. *Philips.*

2. Consisting of spirit or wind.

All solid bodies consist of parts *pneumatical* and tangible; the *pneumatical* substance being in some bodies the native spirit of the body, and in some other, plain air that is gotten in. *Bacon's Natural History.*

PNEUMATICKS. *n. f.* [*pneumatique*, Fr. *πνεύματα*.]

1. A branch of mechanics, which considers the doctrine of the air, or laws according to which that fluid is condensed, rarified or gravitates. *Harris.*

2. In the schools, the doctrine of spiritual substances, as God, angels and the souls of men. *Dist.*

PNEUMATOLOGY. *n. f.* [*πνευματολογία*.] The doctrine of spiritual existence.

To POACH. *v. a.* [*coûs*